

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY AND CHURCH OF THE CITY OF HUDSON

The First Universalist Society and Church of The City of Hudson (such is its corporate name) was organized March 17, 1817, at which time or shortly afterwards seventy-nine persons signed the compact and declaration of faith.

The first pastor was Rev. Joshua Flagg; and Grayer Gardner, Hezekiah Dayton, Miron Acly, Joseph Watson, William R. Macy, Peter Taylor, and William Bates were the first trustees. The deed of the original church lot, situated at the southwest corner of Third and Allen streets, bore date May 28, 1817, and was a gift from Captain John Hathaway. He died in the following March, and the discourse delivered over his remains was the first funeral sermon preached in the house of worship. The building, now St. Mary's school-house, cost \$3000.

Previously to its erection, the Universalists held religious services in the court-house. A document still preserved leaves little doubt that Rev. Abner Kneeland was regularly employed during a part of that time; but whether any other it is impossible now to determine. Rev. Joshua Flagg closed his pastorate in October, 1817, shortly after the consecration of the church edifice, and was succeeded by Rev. David Pickering, then in his prime, whose services, extending through nearly six years, were eminently conducive to the prosperity of the church. He was followed, in 1823, by Rev. Thos. F. King, father of the distinguished Thos. Starr King, who about a year later was succeeded by Rev. Richard Carrique, whose pastorate of a single year gave place to civic honors which he continued to enjoy in the city to the close of his life. Early in 1825, Rev. Mr. King returned to his charge, and during nearly three and a half years more he performed its duties. Another ex-pastor then returned,--Rev. Joshua Flagg,--and at the expiration of a year he gave place to Rev. T. J. Whitcomb. Under Mr. Whitcomb, in August, 1830, the Sabbath-school was organized, with the pastor as superintendent. Rev. William Whittaker succeeded in September, 1832, without any interval, and continued in charge six years. Then, after Rev. D. Acly's brief term of eighteen months was then filled by Rev. B. B. Bunker, when Rev. Gamaliel Collins, now, and during the war, a chaplain in the United States army, gave six years of most efficient service, retiring to accept a charge in Philadelphia. Under him the Sabbath-school attained to large numbers and usefulness. Revs. L. C. Browne, Thos. Borden, A. R. Abbott, and Nelson Snell followed in the order named. The present pastor, Rev. Charles W. Tomlinson, is now in the eleventh year of his service.

In February, 1869, the new house of worship, situated upon the north side of Warren street, near Fifth, was dedicated; the sermon upon that occasion being preached by the pastor. The corner-stone had been laid in October, 1867. It is in the Romanesque style, with spacious auditorium, fine organ, and well-appointed lecture and classrooms. Its cost was nearly \$40,000, and it was entirely freed from debt the year following its completion. The parish also owns a fine brick parsonage adjoining the church, valued at \$9000, which, together with extensive improvements upon it and a fund for its preservation, was the generous gift of Miss Sarah A. Gage. Hon. Robert McKinstry, long one of Hudson's most honored business men, and for more than fifty years a trustee of the parish, bequeathed to the church, subject to certain life claims, a residuary sum of \$20,000. Thus there is an unincumbered church property of about \$70,000.

The present deacons are Lemuel Holmes and Richard Macy; trustees, J. W. Hoysradt, H. W. Rogers, C. H. Evans, Lemuel Holmes, C. C. Terry, W. H. Crapser, and C. A. Van Deusen. C. C. Terry is the superintendent of the Sabbath-school, having twenty-five teachers and officers to assist him. The pupils number about one hundred and forty. There are nearly eight hundred volumes in the Sunday-school library, and over five hundred more in that of the Young People's Union. The latter organization was accomplished three years ago, through the labors of the present pastor, and is intended to serve the social and intellectual needs especially of the young. Hon. J. W. Hoysradt is president of the Union.

RESOLUTION

At a meeting of the Executive Board of the New York State Convention of Universalists, held in the First Universalist Church, Syracuse, N. Y. April 14th, 1921, there being present Messrs. Zoller, Ames, Betts, Parsons, Randall, Sayles, Walker in addition to the President the Rev. Harry Westbrook Reed the following resolution was passed: that the Board deeded to the First Universalist and society of Hudson, N. Y. ALL THAT PARCEL OF LAND with the house known as the Universalist parsonage which same was deeded together with the church to the New York State Convention of Universalists by the First Universalist Church and society of Hudson, N. Y.

There were eight members present. All voted in the affirmative. The president was directed to sign the transfer.

Resolution

Hudson, N. Y.

#33

Warranty Deed

Made the *twenty fourth* day of *March*, in the year One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five

Between The First Universalist Church and Society in the City of Hudson, a Religious Corporation formed under the Laws of the State of New York, having its place of worship and place for the transaction of business in the City of Hudson, County of Columbia, New York, party of the first part, and New York State Convention of Universalists, a Corporation organized under the Laws of the State of New York, having its place for the transaction of business in the Village of Carthage, Jefferson County, New York, party of the second part,

Witnesseth, That the party of the first part, in consideration of sum of - - - - - One - - - - - Dollar

(\$1.00), lawful money of the United States, and other good and valuable consideration - - - - - paid by the party of the second part, does hereby grant and release unto the part of the second part, its successors

~~heirs~~ and assigns forever, ^X ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situate, lying and being in the Fourth Ward of the City of Hudson, County of Columbia and State of New York, and located on the North side of Warren Street, between Fourth and Fifth Streets, and bounded and described as follows: Beginning on the Northerly side of Warren Street at the southwesterly corner of the premises lately occupied by Benoni S. Johnson and running thence northerly along the line of the said Benoni S. Johnson's land about one hundred twenty (120) feet to the southerly line of Prison Alley; thence Westerly along the southerly line of Prison Alley one hundred (100) feet to the land now occupied by Anderson & Bates; thence Southerly along the easterly line of said Anderson & Bates property about one hundred twenty (120) feet to the northerly line of Warren Street; thence Easterly along the northerly line of Warren Street one hundred (100) feet to the place of beginning, being a parcel of land

one hundred (100) feet front and rear and one hundred twenty (120) feet deep, located on the northerly side of Warren Street, the third plot westerly from Fifth Street, and being the same premises conveyed to the party of the first part by the New York State Convention of Universalists by deed bearing date August 1, 1921.

Excepting, however, from the above described premises that portion thereof which was heretofore conveyed by the party of the first part to Edward Smith by deed dated August 29, 1921, and recorded in Columbia County Clerk's Office August 31, 1921, in Deed Book No. 174 at page 592, reference to which deed and the description therein contained, is hereby made for more particularity as to said property conveyed to said Smith.

This conveyance is made pursuant to a Resolution adopted by the Congregation and members of the First Universalist Church and Society in the City of Hudson, N.Y. at a meeting held on the 10th day of March, 1925, and is executed pursuant to said Resolution.

Together with the appurtenances; and all the estate and rights of the party of the first part in and to said premises.

To have and to hold the premises herein granted unto the party of the second part, its successors ~~heirs~~ and assigns forever.

AND the said party of the first part does covenant with the said party of the second part as follows:

THAT the party of the second part shall quietly enjoy the said premises.

THAT the said party of the first part will forever warrant the title to said premises.

In Witness Whereof, The said party of the first part has caused its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed, and these presents to be hereunto set ~~hand and seal~~ ~~the day and year first above written.~~ signed by its duly authorized officers the day and year first above written.
In presence of

FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH AND
SOCIETY IN THE CITY OF HUDSON.

By Frank A. Macy
Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

By Charlotte M. Beridge
Clerk of the Parish.



State of New York

County of COLUMBIA

SS:

On this _____ day of _____, in the year One thousand nine hundred and _____ before me, the subscriber, personally appeared _____ to me personally known to be the same person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he _____ acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

State of New York)
County of Columbia) : ss

On this 24th day of March, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-five, before me, personally came Frank A. Macy and Charlotte M. Berridge, who being by me duly sworn did severally depose and say that they reside in the City of Hudson, N.Y.; that the said Frank A. Macy is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the First Universalist Church and Society in the City of Hudson, N.Y.; the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument and that the said Charlotte M. Berridge is the Clerk of the Parish of said corporation; that they know the seal of said corporation; that the seal affixed to said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed by order of the Board of Directors of said corporation and that they signed their names thereto by like order.

John V. Whitbeck
Suzrogate of Columbia County, N.Y.

6672



Warranty

First Universalist Church and Society in the City of Hudson TO New York State Convention of Universalists.

Dated, March 19 1925

State of New York Columbia County, ss. Recorded on the 26th day of March, 1925, at 9:22 o'clock A.M., in Book No. 189 of Deeds, at page 296 and examined.

G.A. Miller Clerk
Rev. G.D. Wallam
Carrington N.Y.
JOHN V. WHITBECK, JR.
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW
602 WARREN STREET
HUDSON, N. Y.

7-22

REV. JOHN MURRAY ATWOOD, D. D., PRESIDENT
CANTON

REV. JOHN SAYLES, D. D., VICE-PRES.
MOUNT VERNON

LYNN S. RANDALL, TREASURER
309 PINE ST., SYRACUSE

G. DELBERT WALKER, D. D., SECRETARY
CARTHAGE

TRUSTEES

HEMAN W. MORRIS, ROCHESTER
F. W. BETTS, D. D., SYRACUSE
THOMAS EDWARD POTTERTON, D. D., BROOKLYN
FAY C. PARSONS, CORTLAND
REV. CLARA E. MORGAN, HORNELL
LOUIS ANNIN AMES, NEW YORK CITY

The New York State Convention of Universalists

Carthage, N. Y.
March 28, 1928.

Mr. Lynn S. Randall,
309 Pine Street,
Syracuse, N. Y.

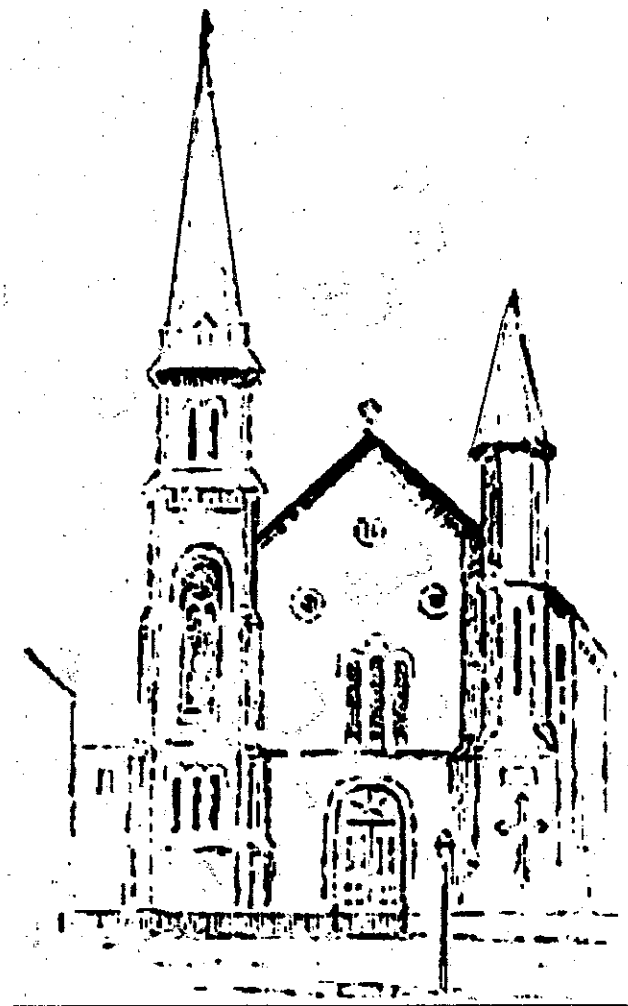
Dear Mr. Randall:

I have just received a letter from the Methodists of Hudson saying that they wish to take title to the Hudson Church on May 1st. I think that you have all the papers in this connection. It will be necessary to have Mr. Rider or somebody prepare the proper transfers. As I recall it we sold this property under a contract, but for the life of me I can't recall the provisions of it. However, I am sure you have it in the Hudson file and undoubtedly Mr. Rider can fix the whole matter up and have it ready by the latter part of April. It is quite possible that I will be going to Hudson at that time.

Sincerely yours,

GD Walker

GDW/RL



**FORMER UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
HUDSON, COLUMBIA COUNTY, NY
PHOTO 1917**